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* 118 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to Legislative Council Question No. 121 on 6th March 1961—

(*a*) whether the Government have since taken decision in regard to the taking over of the Agri-Horticultural Society, Madras; and

(*b*) if not, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: (*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Steamer Services

* 119 *Q.*—SRI K. S. ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have made any recommendations to the Government of India for the transfer of steamer services from Dhanushkodi to Talaimannar from the Marine Department, Southern Railway to private sector; and

(*b*) if so, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: (*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: Was any representation received from the public to pass it on to the private operators from the Navigation Department?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: I would request the hon. Member to repeat the question.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: Have the Government received any representation from the public to the effect that it may be transferred to private operators?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: No, Sir.

SRI K. S. ABDUL WAHAB: The Government have incurred a loss of nearly Rs. 5 crores in operating the service. Some private operators have offered to the Government to run it if it is transferred to them. Will the Government recommend the transfer of the right to private parties?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: I do not know from where the hon. Member got the information that the Government had incurred a loss of Rs. 5 crores. I do not think that such a huge loss is involved. There are difficulties in operating the particular service and in fact, the Railway Board had a mind to dispense with it. But it is this Government which has insisted that they must continue the service and so they are carrying on.

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திரு. ஜெ. பொன்னுசாமி வில்லவராயர்: தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த ஸ்டீமர் போக்குவரத்தை தூத்துக்குடிக்கு மாற்றுவதற்கு உத்தேசமுண்டா? இப்படி மாற்ற நமது அரசாங்கம் ரெக்கமெண்டேஷன் பண்ணியிருக்கிறதா?

கனம் திரு. வி. ராமையா: அரசாங்கம் இதுபோன்ற ஒரு சிபாரிசும் செய்யவில்லை என்பதைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Questions are over.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—ANNOUNCEMENTS.

(1) MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have received messages from the Governor of Madras recommending to the Legislative Council the consideration of the Madras Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1963 and the Madras Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1963, as passed by the Legislative Assembly.

(2) MESSAGES FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have also received messages from the Hon. Speaker, Legislative Assembly, transmitting copies of the Madras Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1963 (L.A. Bill No. 8 of 1963) and the Madras Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1963 (L.A. Bill No. 9 of 1963) as passed by the Assembly and signed by him for the recommendation of the Council and certifying that the Bills are Money Bills within the meaning of Article 199 of the Constitution of India.

III.—CALLING ATTENTION TO THE FAILURE OF THE AUTHORITIES IN SOUTH ARCOT DISTRICT TO FILL VACANT POSTS OF FIRST GRADE TAMIL PANDITS.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, with your permission, I wish to call the attention of the Hon. the Minister for Finance to a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the failure of the concerned authorities to appoint First Grade Tamil pandits in vacancies that exist in a number of District Board High Schools in South Arcot district, though First Grade Tamil pandits are posted as Second Grade Tamil pandits in the same schools.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I wish to make the following statement on the matter :—

As already stated on the floor of this House on the 7th March 1963, the Government have permitted in 1962 the appointment of one Grade I Tamil Pandit for teaching in the higher standards in all high schools, irrespective of the minimum hours of work. So, creation of new posts of Grade I Pandits has become necessary in